

**METHOD OF OPTIMIZING PATIENT OUTCOME FROM EXTERNAL
COUNTERPULSATION THERAPY**

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

5 A method of data management for optimizing the patient outcome from the
provision of external counterpulsation (ECP) therapy is described. This method
describes a process by which sets of dynamic cardiopulmonary dependent variables
are measured during steady-state conditions, displayed, and translated into
quantitative and qualitative measurements while the independent variables of ECP,
cuff inflation delay and cuff inflation pressure settings of ECP systems, are altered by
10 a physician. In combination with visual observation and computer-assisted ranking of
the dependent variables, a physician can utilize the resulting information to render
decisions on the optimal choice of the independent variables. Additionally, the same
measurement equipment can be used chronically to assess patient outcome in terms of
mortality predictors. The method will enable physicians to collect, view, track and
15 manage complicated data using well-understood visualization techniques to better
understand the consequences, acutely and chronically, of their therapeutic actions in
general, and of their provision of ECP therapy in particular.